October 20th – Celebrate Homecoming

Join the School of Nursing for a special Homecoming continuing education session and alumni reception on Friday, October 24th. The Pitt Nursing CE event will feature alumna Nancy L. Rothman, EdD (BSN ’63), who will review the call within The Future of Nursing report for all nurses to practice to the full extent of their education and training, and provide current evidence of independent nursing practice models. The CE event will take place at 1:30 pm in Room 129 of the Victoria Building and will be followed by a Homecoming alumni reception from 2:30-4:30 pm.

Advanced registration for the CE event is required, but no RSVP is required for the Homecoming Alumni Reception. Please note that the reception is free to all alumni; there is a $10 fee for the CE session, for which 1 contact hour will be awarded.

Students, families, enjoy Pitt Nursing’s Inaugural White Coat Ceremony

More than 130 sophomores and students in the Accelerated 2nd Degree BSN program participated in the School of Nursing’s first White Coat Ceremony, held on August 23, 2014. This event was made possible through an initiative hosted by the Arnold P. Gold Foundation and the American Association of Colleges of Nursing. These organizations joined together to introduce the White Coat Ceremony into schools of nursing; prior to this, the ceremony was usually held in medical schools. Pitt Nursing was so pleased to be one of only 100 schools of nursing selected to be a part of this pilot program which emphasizes a commitment to comprehensive, patient-centered care among future nursing professionals.

The School was pleased to welcome back two-time alumni Laura Fennimore (MSN’87, DNP’09) to give the keynote address at the ceremony. Dr. Fennimore is the Director of Clinical Programs at UPMC Health Plan. Her address explored the role of nurses within today’s healthcare system and the impact nurses will have on the future of healthcare. Remarks were also given by Abigail Slocum, a senior and president of the Nursing
Student Association at Pitt. Each student was presented with their white coat for use in clinical situations, as well as a commemorative pin. A reception followed the event for students and their families.

School of Nursing honors 2014 Alumni Award recipients!

The School of Nursing is so pleased to announce the recipients of the School’s Alumni Awards for 2014. The School offers these awards to recognize and honor the achievements of those Pitt Nursing graduates who have had a great impact on the profession. For 2014, the recipients are:

**The Distinguished Alumni Award**

The 2014 Distinguished Alumni Award recipient is Prakin Kotchabhakdi Distinguished Alumni Award Recipient Suchaxaya (MSN ’81 PhD ’84), the Coordinator for Gender Equity and Human Rights for the World Health Organization in New Delhi, India. As such, she is responsible for the mainstreaming of gender, equity and human rights within the healthcare systems in her coverage area. Until recently, she served as a Regional Adviser in Nursing and Midwifery for the organization.

Dr. Suchaxaya earned her Master’s and PhD in nursing here at Pitt’s School of Nursing. She began her work with the World Health Organization in 2005, after a distinguished career as a professor and administrator at Chiang Mai University in Thailand. She is a recognized national and international leader in nursing education and administration. She has served on the Thailand Nursing Council’s Executive Board and held the position of Deputy Secretary General for that organization. Recently, Dr. Suchaxaya was honored with the Princess Srinagarindra Award, presented annually to an outstanding nurse leader. This international honor draws nominations from across the globe and reflects the distinguished reputation and level of service of the recipient.
The Outstanding Young Alumni Award

The 2014 recipient of the School of Nursing’s Outstanding Young Alumni Award is Adelle M. Lotinsky (BSN ’10, MSN ’13). Ms. Lotinsky earned her Bachelor and Master’s degrees from the School of Nursing and now is employed as the Corporate Director of Clinical Education for LifeCare Management Services. As such, Ms. Lotinsky is responsible for educational and competency programming for 24 hospitals and 17 nurse education coordinators.

She has developed and implemented a company-wide education plan with the goal of offering pertinent, contemporary programming to enhance the skills and knowledge of thousands of employees. She has instituted a standard orientation program for employees from all care areas, plus she has introduced a standard competency program for the nursing, rehabilitation services, respiratory therapy, and other departments. Ms. Lotinsky’s work for LifeCare is resulting in better-prepared, more confident professionals with the most up-to-date skills. Continuous, life-long learning is a hallmark of the nursing profession, one that is heavily promoted at the School of Nursing.

Please join the School of Nursing in congratulating the 2014 Alumni Award recipients!

Pitt Nursing welcomes students from Birmingham City University (UK)

At the end of September, the School of Nursing was pleased to host students from the Birmingham City University in the UK, one of our international educational affiliates!

SON hosted 2014 Scholarship Luncheon

In September, the School hosted its annual Scholarship Luncheon, an event which Scholarship Luncheon brings together donors who have established and supported scholarship and research funds and the students who benefit so greatly from the donors’ generosity. More than 160 students and donors joined Pitt Nursing faculty and administrators for a luncheon and presentation of scholarship certificates. Congratulations to all of our scholarship awardees and thank you so much to all of our donors! Your gifts make it possible for students to devote themselves to their nursing studies and research activities.
without undue financial pressure. If you’re interested in learning more about supporting a nursing scholarship fund.

Alumna featured on AACN Webinar
Lieutenant General Patricia D. Horoho (MSN ’92), the Surgeon General of the U.S. Army and Commander of the United States Army Command, shares her expertise regarding the future of healthcare and the importance of leadership on this informative and illuminating Webinar hosted by the American Association of Colleges of Nursing. Visit this [AACN Web page](#) for more details.

Get Your Pitt Nursing T-Shirt before our 75th anniversary is over!
Our anniversary year, celebrating the founding of the School in 1939, has been so much fun! You can be a part of the festivities by showing off your Pitt Nursing Pride in your commemorative T-shirt or sleep shirt! Place your order [here](#)...and shipping is free!